

CLEAN VERSION OF ALL PENDING CLAIMS

January 13, 2003

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-5 and 16 as follows.

1. (Amended) In a radiolucent patient support table including substantially planar top and bottom surfaces held apart in an opposed relationship, a medical appliance support interface for selectively connecting an associated medical appliance to the table, the interface comprising:

10 a non-planar first connection area defined on said top surface of the surgical table, the first connection area being shaped to provide a first supporting force against an associated medical appliance in a first direction substantially parallel to the top and bottom surfaces, and a second supporting force against the associated medical appliance in a second direction substantially perpendicular to the top and bottom surfaces; and,

15 a second connection area defined on said table and shaped to provide a third supporting force against the associated medical appliance in a third direction substantially parallel to the top and bottom surfaces, and a fourth supporting force against the associated medical appliance in a fourth direction substantially perpendicular to the top and bottom surfaces.

2. (Amended) The medical appliance support interface according to claim 1 wherein said first connection area includes at least one recess defined between a pair of wall surfaces that converge at a bight of the at least one recess.

3. (Amended) The medical appliance support interface according to claim 2 wherein said second connection area includes a substantially planar surface held at an oblique angle relative to said substantially planar top and bottom surfaces.

*Sub C1*

5        4. (Amended) The medical appliance support interface according to claim 3 further including a rounded lip area formed between said at least one recess and said substantially planar surface, the rounded lip area defining a crest located between said bight and a plane defined by the top surface of the patient support table.

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5        5. (Amended) The medical appliance support interface according to claim 4 wherein said rounded lip area is spaced apart from the plane defined by the top surface by a predetermined distance.

5        6. A surgical table comprising:  
a base member;  
a column connected with the base member;  
a rectangular radiolucent patient support member carried on the column, the patient support member defining substantially planar top and bottom surfaces; and,

10        a low radiographic shadow accessory connection interface defined by a surface along at least one edge of the patient support member for selectively connecting an associated accessory to the patient support member, the surface being without planar portions oriented in a substantially perpendicular relation to said planar top surface of the patient support member so that first portions of an associated x-ray signal passing through the connection interface along a path substantially perpendicular to the planar top surface are attenuated substantially the same as second portions of the x-ray signal passing through the patient support member.

15        7. The surgical table according to claim 6 wherein said surface of the low shadow connection interface includes a first

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C5

connection area adjacent the planar top surface of the patient support member and a second connection area extending between the first connection area and the bottom surface of the patient support member, the first connection area including a curved lip surface and the second connection area including a planar locating surface disposed in a non-perpendicular relation with said planar top surface.

8. The surgical table according to claim 7 wherein the first connection area includes a curved recess surface formed in said planar top surface of the patient support member adjacent said curved lip surface.

9. The surgical table according to claim 8 wherein the curved recess surface formed in said planar top surface is defined by a pair of opposed spaced apart concave wall surfaces formed in the planar top surface of the patient support member adjacent said curved lip surface.

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10. The surgical table according to claim 9 wherein:  
the curved recess surface formed in the planar top surface defines a groove having a first radius  $r$ ; and,  
the curved lip surface defines a ridge having substantially said first radius  $r$ .

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11. The surgical table according to claim 9 wherein the curved recess surface includes a planar intermediate surface extending between said spaced apart concave wall surfaces, the planar intermediate surface being substantially parallel with the planar top surface of the patient support member.

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12. The surgical table according to claim 7 wherein the planar locating surface extends at an angle of about  $50^\circ$  relative

to the top and bottom surfaces of the patient support member.

5 Sub C1  
13. The surgical table according to claim 7 wherein:  
the top surface of the patient support member defines a  
first plane; and,  
the curved lip surface is disposed entirely on a side of  
said first plane containing said patient support member.

14. The surgical table according to claim 7 further  
comprising:

5 a third connection area between said second connection and  
said bottom surface of the patient support member, the third  
connection member including a downwardly directed curved ridge  
extending from the bottom surface of the patient support member  
in a direction opposite from said curved lip surface of said  
first connection area.

15. The surgical table according to claim 7 wherein the  
rectangular radiolucent patient support member includes a  
plurality of selectively intermateable support member portions  
including a body and leg support section connected with said  
5 column, a headrest section pivotally attached with the body and  
leg support sections, and a cardio-vascular extender member  
selectively attachable to the body and leg support section.

16. (Amended) The surgical table according to claim 7  
wherein the column includes:

5 a vertical column member suspended from overhead by a  
ceiling of an associated surgical room; and,  
a generally horizontally oriented support bar for pivotally  
connecting the patient support member with the vertical column  
member, the support bar being vertically movable relative to the  
column member to enable positioning of the patient support member

(b) (5)

relative to a floor of the associated surgical room.